

# Task Force on Behavioral Health Data Policies and Long Term Stays

## Meeting Two

December 18, 2014  
Beth Waldman and Megan Burns

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Public comment
- Discussion of draft vision and measures
- Long term stays
- Next Steps

# Since We Last Met....

MMPI  
released 5  
priority areas  
for the new  
administration  
including  
Behavioral  
Health  
Integration  
and  
Infrastructure  
Investment

## Invest in MassHealth Infrastructure

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*MassHealth's infrastructure is insufficient to support program strategy, system evaluation, transformation and payment reform*



### Staffing

Financial, data analytics,  
operational, policy,  
program evaluation



### IT & Data Analytics

Program data for  
population health  
management, program  
design and oversight



### Transparency

Stakeholders request  
transparency and better  
access to timely data

manatt

# Since We Last Met...



## ISSUE BRIEF

The Massachusetts Health Policy Forum



### The Time is Now:

*Tackling Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mental and Behavioral Health Services in Massachusetts*

Margarita Alegría, PhD, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, Center for Multicultural Mental Health Research

Benjamin Cook, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, Center for Multicultural Mental Health Research

Stephen Loder, Research Coordinator, Center for Multicultural Mental Health Research

Michael Doonan, PhD, Associate Professor, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

MA Health Policy Forum released a report on racial and ethnic disparities in behavioral health

# Happening now...

The Health Planning Council is releasing its final report today.



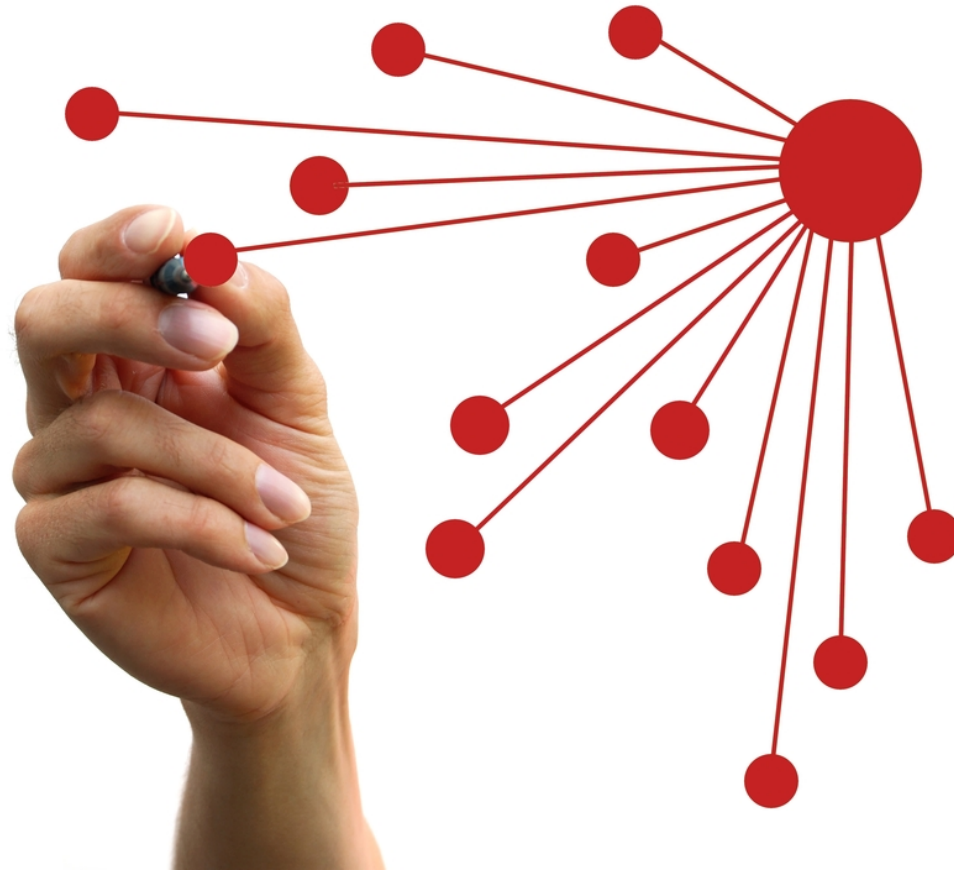
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Public Health

## Recommendations: Data Collection and Analysis

- Expand data collection and reporting on hospital and community capacity. For example:
  - Improve data collection about occupancy rates
  - Where possible, leverage the Registration of Provider Organization (RPO) process to streamline data collection efforts
  - Explore making information about service availability more publicly accessible
  - Examine opportunities to collect data through professional licensing renewal processes
- Continue to analyze outpatient and APCD data.
- Implement a Behavioral Health Data Planning group with staff from key agencies, including DPH, DMH, MassHealth, CHIA, and HPC.

Slide 39

# Connecting the Dots....



Current and past work is highlighting the need for data that can tell us more about the MA behavioral health system and its performance.

# Connecting the Dots...

## Activity Performed by the BH Data Policy and Long Term Stay Task Force

Identify  
characteristics  
of high  
performing BH  
system

Identify  
what to  
measure

Issue report  
detailing  
measurement  
goals and  
gaps in ability  
to achieve  
those goals

State might  
invest in  
BH data  
collection

Laws  
may be  
changed

## Activity Taken by State Agencies or Legislature

## Goal

Public  
Dashboard  
on  
Performance  
of  
Behavioral  
Health  
System

# Draft Vision

- Discussion of Draft Vision
  - Packet includes draft vision
  - Key topic areas are in red
  - Looking for feedback on topics:
    - What is missing?
    - What shouldn't be there?



# What Measures Can Assess the Behavioral Health System?

- Our goal is to develop measures that would help the legislature assess the performance of the behavioral health system and to inform its investments of resources.
- When reviewing these measures, we will need to consider:
  - Are these good measures?
  - Do they sufficiently assess the performance of the behavioral health system?
  - Which measures best indicate system performance without needing additional information?

# Five Draft Domains

1. Person Centered
2. Workforce & Infrastructure
3. Access
4. Health & Wellbeing Outcomes
5. Fair and Reasonable Payment Rates and Financial Alignment

# Person Centered Measures

- How much improvement perceived in oneself as a result of the care provided\*
- Percent of patients that agree they had a team of providers working to meet the patient's needs
- Ability to access care when needed
- Consumer and family participant in treatment planning, as desired, and agreement with plan of care

# Workforce & Infrastructure Measures (1 of 2)

- Number of providers in specialty, including:
  - Hours work
  - Work setting
  - Types of insurance accepted
  - Training
  - Languages spoken
  - Types of services provided

# Workforce & Infrastructure Measures

## (2 of 2)

- Numbers and types of behavioral health providers with interoperable EHRs and protocols in place to share information with physical health and behavioral health providers.
- Number of prescribing providers with ability to review up-to-date behavioral and physical health medical lists prior to issuing new prescriptions

# Access Measures (1 of 2)

- Number of patients in the ED that are ready to be discharged or admitted but unable to leave ED because they are waiting for available care in either the community or hospital.
- Number of individuals with more than six ED visits within a 12 month period with a behavioral health diagnosis
- Number of patients in IP psychiatric care that are ready to be discharged to step-down care but unable to leave IP care because they are waiting for available step-down care.

# Access Measures (2 of 2)

- Unduplicated count of individuals receiving behavioral health services in the state as compared to those expected to need behavioral health services (based on prevalence)
- Number of licensed beds and occupancy rates for:
  - IP psychiatric beds
  - Free-standing psychiatric facility
  - DMH Continuing Care facilities
- Number of licensed inpatient psychiatric beds compared to number of staffed beds, by region, including nearby out of state facilities
- Average time to appointment for outpatient behavioral health care, by service type.

# Care Delivery, Health and Wellbeing Outcomes: Behavioral Health Integration

- Number of patients with behavioral health issues that are being screened for medical issues (e.g., LDL, BP, BMI, etc. as appropriate)
- Number of patients with medical health issues that are being screened for behavioral health issues in the primary care setting (e.g., depression, substance use, etc.)
- Number of primary care practices that offer integrated behavioral health services
- Number of behavioral health practices that offer integrated primary care services



# Care Delivery, Health and Wellbeing Outcomes: Other Measures

- Provider performance against evidence-based standards of care
- Readmissions to any care setting within 30 days of discharge from IP psychiatric care
- Follow-up after hospitalization for mental illness or substance use disorder within 7 days and within 30 days
- Follow-up referral and adequate connection to care after discharge
- Number of arrests for individuals who have received behavioral health care and for individuals who have received treatment within the past 30 days
- Percent of individuals with behavioral health needs who have stable housing

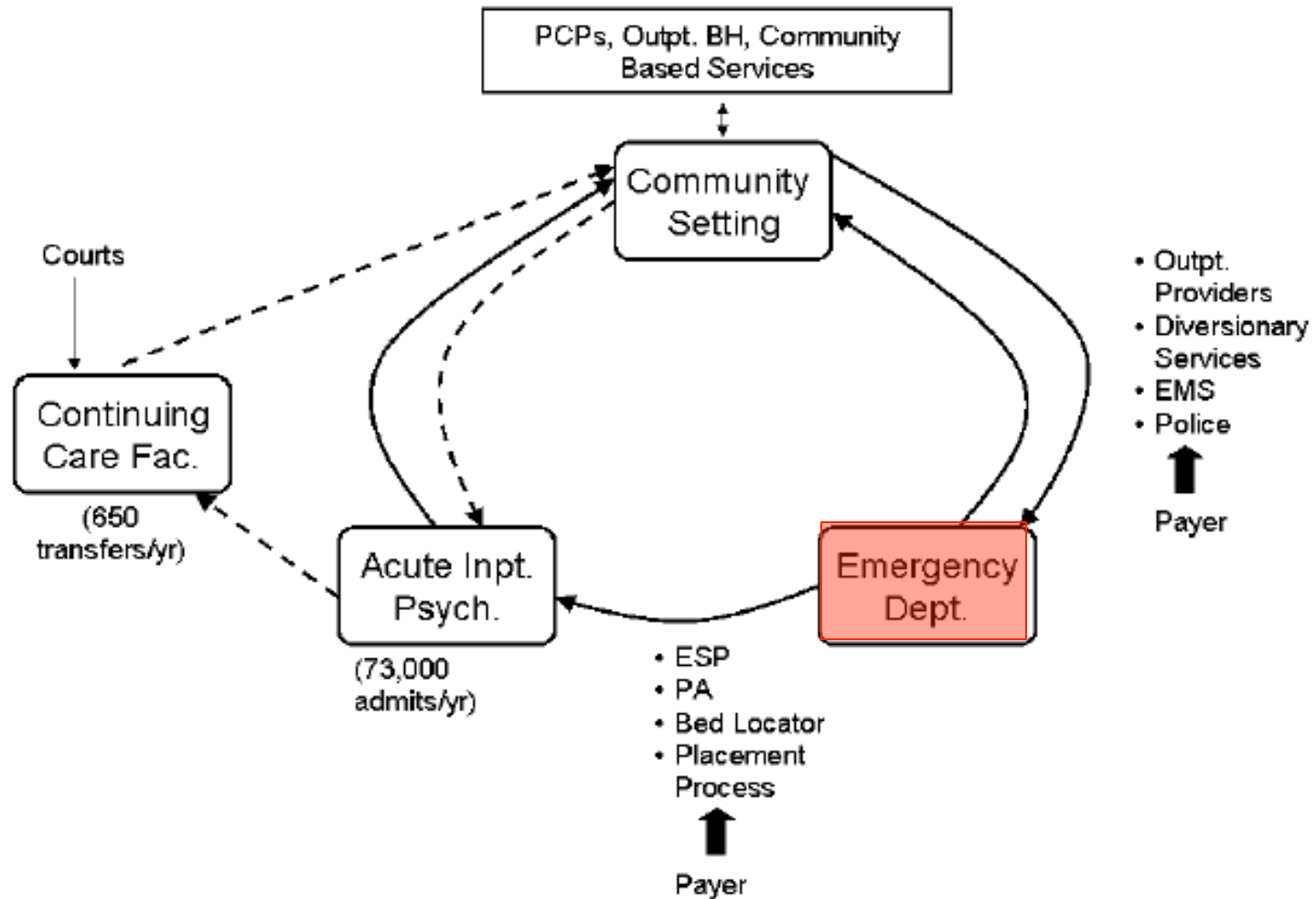
# Fair and Reasonable Payment Rates / Financial Alignment

- Variation in payment rates across provider types
- Total cost of care for individuals receiving behavioral health services
- Number of providers that receive payment and / or performance incentives for integration and / or coordination work
- Cost of care for individuals receiving behavioral health services in a hospital setting, including ED care
- Inclusion / exclusion of behavioral health in alternative payment contracts

# Long Term Stays Discussion: A Preview

- Chapter 230 asks Task Force to make recommendations to:
  - reduce the number of long-term patients in DMH Continuing Care Facilities, acute psych units and emergency departments
- Suggests potential solutions including:
  - Increased capacity in Crisis Stabilization Units
  - Prioritization of individuals in need of re-admission within 30 days of discharge from a DMH Continuing Care Facility

# Complex, Interdependent System

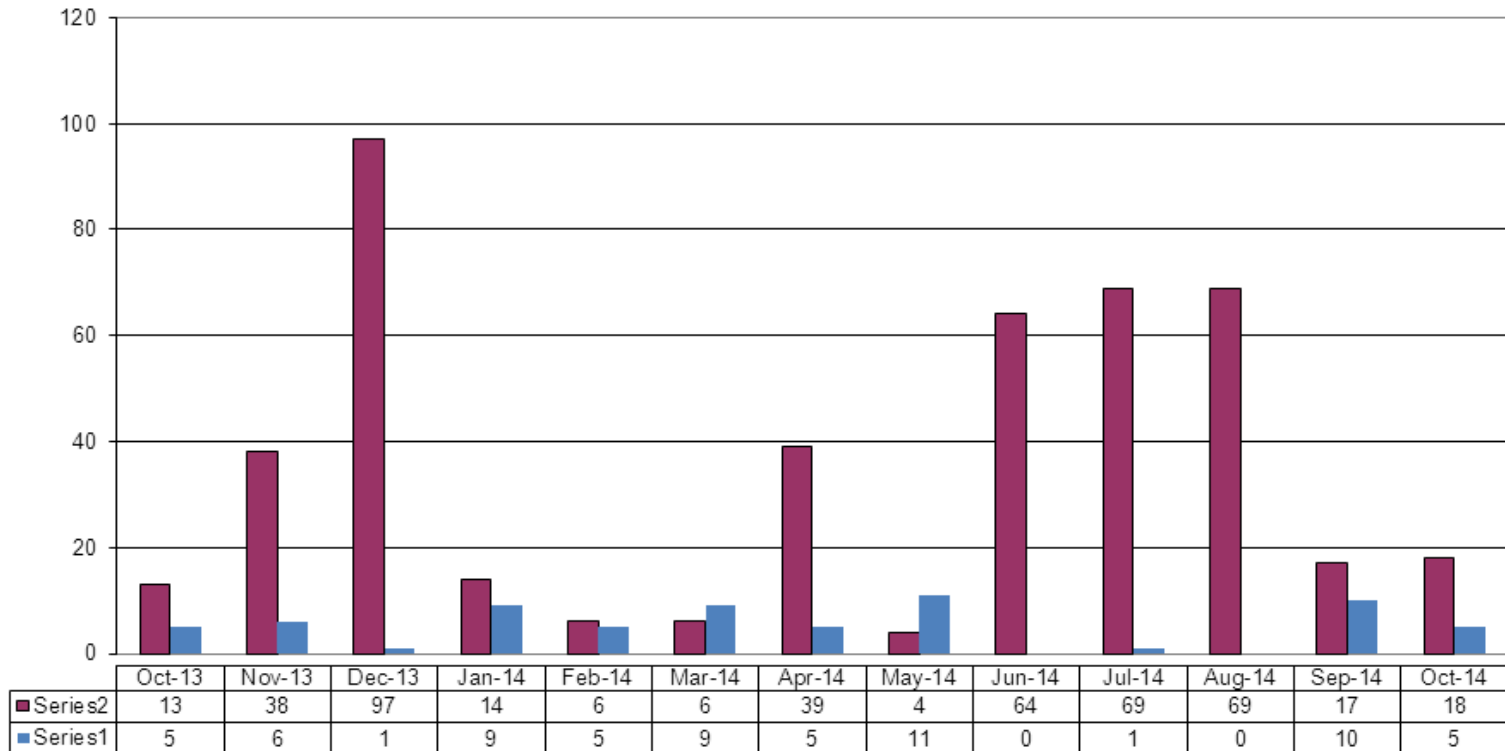


# Available Data on Long Term Stays

- State collects information on the children who are in specialized services and ready for discharge through the CARD List. This does not measure ED, but does lead to inability to discharge others from the ED
- State also collects data on the number of adults who are awaiting placement in DMH Continuing Care Facilities through the DART list.
- Hospitals individually track who is “boarding” in the ED, or who is inpatient but awaiting discharge. Required to report to DPH if over 12 hours.

# CARD List

**Number of MBHP Youth Awaiting Inpatient Hospital Placement and Number of Available Inpatient Beds**  
**As of the Last Day of the Month**  
 October 2014



# Next Steps

Next meeting: January 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30-noon.

Location TBD

1. Consider data questions and develop survey for insurers/state purchasers based on today's conversation
2. Next meeting will focus on Long Term Stays and potential solutions to recommend

# Contact Information

For any questions contact:

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